

to so to speak a national personality. These pretensions are based upon notions of unity that are derived from past history, and their advancement may be attributed to the increasing attention that is paid to historical studies. To corroborate them by evidence of singularity attempts may be made to resuscitate languages that are actually dead.

So far for the ties between man and man which rest upon the influence of the social instinct. But these are not the only links in human society. By the selfish or individualistic impulses, bonds have been compacted which have drawn men together as by hoops of iron. Many of them have been forced in the smithy of war. Slavery is technically dead: but up to quite modern times it was a vital element in the constitution of society, and from a practical point of view, it is still a living institution in some Spanish and Portuguese countries. It is not peculiar to mankind: some species of ants have slaves, which appear to become greatly attached to their masters and will fight energetically on their behalf. Slaves might be acquired by raiding: in this case their condition generally became that of domestic servitude. Or, when a country was conquered, the indigenous population might be degraded to a position of helotage, in which they might labour on their fields, but for the conqueror's benefit, and were carefully excluded from political privileges. As time advanced, and their condition

improved.
they have claimed freedom, and even
political
equality. and they have generally made
good their
claim except in cases where the ruling
class has
rigidly maintained its vigour and
exclusiveness.
The conflict between the patricians and
plebeians
of Rome is a familiar illustration of this
social
revolution : and we have an instance
nearer home
in the history of Ireland.
Since commerce has become
a temptation